(c) the recommendations made in the report and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A study sponsored by the National Commission for Women on coparcenary rights of women in Andhra Pradesh was conducted by NALSAR, University of Law, Hyderabad. The project report submitted by NALSAR to the National Commission for Women, *inter alia,* contains the following suggestions:—

"(i) The coparcenary should be done away with in Hindu Succession Act, 1956 as we have in 1956 done away with *Stridhana.*

(ii) Equal share to daughter along with son in the ancestral property should be done on the lines of Section 8 of the Hindu succession Act, 1956, which confers equal share in self-acquired property.

(iii) The right to claim partition should be given to daughter along with sons and predeceased son's wife/widow.

(iv) The members of Joint Hindu Family can still continue and those of them who wish to stay together can stay as co-owners of property."

The Law Commission of India, after studying the various State amendments to the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 including the Hindu Succession (Andhra Pradesh Amendment) Act, 1986 and the Kerala Joint Hindu Family System (Abolition) Act, 1975 submitted its 174th Report on "Property Rights of Women : Proposed Reforms under the Hindu Law" to the Central Government. With a view to implementing the said Report of the Commission and after consulting the State Governments, the Hindu Succession (Amendment) Bill, 2004 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th December, 2004. The Bill is currently under examination of the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice.

High Court Benches in Uttar Pradesh

715. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the High Court functioning in Uttar Pradesh;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether there is any proposal for establishing a Bench of Allahabad High Court in the Western Uttar Pradesh and a Bench in the Eastern Uttar Pradesh;

(c) whether Government would constitute any Commission to examine the establishment of the Benches of the High Court in the other parts of the State keeping in view the vastness of the State and the burden of work of the High Court; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) The principal seat of the High Court in Uttar Pradesh is at Allahabad and a permanent bench thereof is at Lucknow.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Jaswant Singh Commission has already laid down the broad principles, criteria and the factors to be kept in mind while setting up of benches of High Courts. Therefore, the Government does not propose to constitute any Commission in this regard.

Media trial of accused

716. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has recently deprecated the media trial of accused in pending cases, as such practice interferes with the administration of justice;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures Government propose to ensure that the opinion articulated by the Hon'ble Court is respected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In connection with a case in Supreme Court relating to dowry death (Criminal Appeal No. 219 of 2005 — M.P Lohia *vs* State of West Bengal & Anr) an article titled 'Doomed by Dowry' appeared in a magazine called 'Saga' based on an interview of the family of the deceased. The court observed that the facts narrated therein are all materials that may be used in the forthcoming trial in this case and that this type of articles appearing in the media would certainly interfere with the administration of Justice.